

Message From the Chair

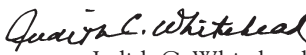
On behalf of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) Governing Board, I am pleased to present the District’s adopted budget for fiscal year (FY) 2008, which starts October 1, 2007 and ends September 30, 2008.

The District’s total budget for FY2008 is \$395.0 million, an increase of \$11.7 million, or 3 percent over the FY2007 budget of \$383.3 million. The increase includes \$1.4 million in ad valorem property tax revenue related to new construction and dedicated to water resource management projects. The remainder of the increase is due to additional state funding dedicated for specific projects, interest earnings and balances available from the prior year.

The Governing Board and all eight Basin Boards reduced their millage rates consistent with the tax reform legislation (House Bill 1B) that was passed by the 2007 Legislature and signed into law by Governor Charlie Crist on June 21, 2007. In compliance with this legislation, the FY2008 millage rate for the Districtwide General Fund (operating fund) was lowered to 0.3866 from 0.4220, an 8.4 percent reduction. The FY2008 millage rates for all of the District’s Basins were lowered. The millage rates range from 0.3701 for the Pinellas-Anclote River Basin to 0.1484 for the Manasota Basin. These rates reflect millage rates that are below the FY2007 rates by 6.3 percent for Peace River Basin to 12.9 percent for Withlacoochee River Basin. This resulted in a \$21.8 million reduction in ad valorem tax revenue.

- Some of the highlights of the FY2008 budget include:
- \$184.4 million or 47 percent of its total expenditures to be invested in the Water Supply and Resource Development (WSRD) program and the Cooperative Funding program. This includes the third year of funding from the State’s Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund of \$15 million for alternative water supply development. The \$184.4 million for WSRD and Cooperative Funding will be leveraged through public and private partnerships for a potential investment of over \$339 million in sustainable alternative water supply development and other water resource management projects.
 - The number of full-time equivalent positions (736 FTEs) remains unchanged since 1997. The District continues to conduct in-depth efficiency and effectiveness audits designed to identify additional streamlining and outsourcing opportunities. The FY2008 budget includes over \$78.1 million (approximately 20 percent of expenditures) that the District intends to outsource to private industry.

The FY2008 budget reflects the District’s goal of providing cost-effective quality services without debt on a pay-as-you-go basis while protecting and enhancing the public’s water resources. All projects and budgeted programs are dedicated to meeting the District’s Water Management Plan and strategic priorities. This budget includes dedicated funding for the projects outlined in the Regional Water Supply Plan — a major step in ensuring sustainable water supplies and a protected environment for future generations of southwest Floridians.


Judith C. Whitehead
Chair

How the District Is Funded

FY2008 Budget	Revenues (in millions)	% of Total
Ad Valorem Tax Revenue*	\$237.5	60.9%
Property tax levied on the taxable value of real and personal property as certified by the property appraiser in each county.		
Balance from Prior Year	\$44.8	11.5%
Unexpended funds carried forward from the previous fiscal year.		
State Funding	\$76.0	19.5%
Funds provided by the State of Florida. The major sources of revenue are from the Department of Environmental Protection Ecosystem Trust Fund, Florida Forever Trust Fund, Water Management Lands Trust Fund, Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund, and Department of Transportation.		
Federal Funding	\$1.4	0.4%
Funds provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Florida Coastal Management Program, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Wetlands Reserve Program.		
Other Funding	\$30.3	7.7%
Various funding sources such as local county/city governments, permit fees, interest earnings on investments, and miscellaneous revenue.		
TOTAL REVENUES	\$390.0	100%

Interfund Transfers	\$5.0	n/a
Represents the transfer of resources to fund the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Program. The accounting transfers to the SWIM Fund are not revenues, but must be included in the overall budget. A subtotal of budgeted revenues and balances is shown above without the “double counting” of transfers.		
TOTAL BUDGET	\$395.0	100%

** With limits set by the Florida Constitution and Florida Statutes, both the District and the Basins are authorized to tax up to one-half of a mill to fund their projects. This means that if the District and each Basin Board levied the maximum allowed, a property owner would pay a maximum of \$1 for every \$1,000 of assessed taxable property value.*

(Historically, the actual rates levied have been less than the maximums allowed, and for FY2008, were further limited by statute.)

0.5 mill	+	0.5 mill	=	1.0 mill or \$1.00
Governing Board		Basin Boards		Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value
Maximum Allowed		Maximum Allowed		Maximum Allowed

How the District Allocates Resources

FY2008 Budget	Expenditures (in millions)	% of Total
Water Resources Planning and Monitoring	\$44.2	11.3%
Includes all water management planning, including water supply planning, development of minimum flows and levels, and other water resource planning; research, data collection, analysis, and monitoring; and technical assistance (including local/regional plan and program review).		
Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works	\$232.4	59.6%
Includes the development and construction of all capital projects, including water resource development projects/water supply development assistance, water control projects, support and administrative facilities construction, land acquisition, and the restoration of lands and water bodies.		
Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works	\$29.1	7.5%
Includes all operation and maintenance of facilities, flood control and water supply structures, lands, and other works authorized by Chapter 373, Florida Statutes.		
Regulation	\$22.4	5.7%
Includes water use permitting, water well construction permitting, water well contractor licensing, environmental resource/surface water management permitting, permit administration/enforcement and any delegated regulatory program.		

Outreach	\$6.0	1.6%
Includes all environmental education activities, such as water conservation campaigns and water resources education, public information activities, and all lobbying activities relating to local, regional, state, and federal governmental affairs.		
District Management and Administration	\$55.9	14.3%
Includes all administrative and operations support (\$20.8M or 5.3%), information systems (\$15.5M or 4.0%), unrestricted reserves and contingencies (\$11.8M or 3.0%), and commissions to county tax collectors and property appraisers (\$7.8M or 2.0%).		

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$390.0	100%
Interfund Transfers	\$5.0	n/a
Represents the transfer of resources from the General Fund and Basins to fund the SWIM Program. The accounting transfers from these funds are not expenditures, but must be included in the overall budget appropriation. A subtotal of budgeted expenditures is shown above without the “double counting” of transfers.		
TOTAL BUDGET	\$395.0	100%

Budget Highlights

Millage Rates	FY2007	FY2008*
Districtwide	0.4220	0.3866
Special Revenue Funds		
Alafia River Basin	0.2400	0.2163
Coastal Rivers Basin	0.2050	0.1885
Hillsborough River Basin	0.2850	0.2547
Manasota Basin	0.1600	0.1484
Northwest Hillsborough Basin	0.2680	0.2421
Peace River Basin	0.1950	0.1827
Pinellas-Anclote River Basin	0.4000	0.3701
Withlacoochee River Basin	0.2650	0.2308

Summary Budget	FY2007	FY2008
General Fund	\$188,105,728	\$194,862,371
Special Revenue Funds		
Alafia River Basin	\$ 8,377,561	\$ 7,594,491
Coastal Rivers Basin	8,329,310	10,010,261
Hillsborough River Basin	21,078,998	18,049,024
Manasota Basin	24,977,189	25,297,509
Northwest Hillsborough Basin	9,288,171	10,841,322
Peace River Basin	15,976,982	17,846,524
Pinellas-Anclote River Basin	41,385,128	49,283,043
Withlacoochee River Basin	10,214,705	11,884,172
Subtotal Basin Funds	\$139,628,044	\$150,806,346
FDOT Mitigation	\$ 1,803,644	\$ 2,039,772
SWIM	7,399,442	12,817,516
Partnership Trust	15,140,538	—

Total Special Revenue Funds	\$163,971,668	\$165,663,634
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Capital Projects Funds		
Facilities Fund	\$ 2,554,901	\$ 1,600,000
Florida Forever/Save Our Rivers	28,672,000	32,875,500

Total Capital Projects Funds	\$ 31,226,901	\$ 34,475,500
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Total Combined Budget	\$383,304,297	\$395,001,505
(Includes Interfund Transfers)		

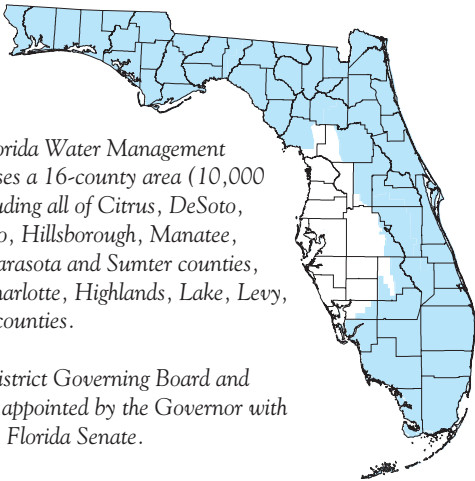
* Millage rates for FY2008 were lowered to 97 percent of the rolled-back rate as required by statute.

BALANCING WATER NEEDS ... PROTECTING WATER RESOURCES

Mission

The mission of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) is to manage water and related natural resources to ensure their continued availability while maximizing environmental, economic and recreational benefits. Central to the mission is maintaining the balance between the water needs of current and future users while protecting and maintaining water and related natural resources which provide the District with its existing and future water supply.

The Governing Board of the District assumes its responsibilities as authorized in Chapter 373 and other chapters of the Florida Statutes by directing a wide-range of programs, initiatives, and actions. These include, but are not limited to, flood protection, water use, well construction and environmental resource permitting, water conservation, education, land acquisition, water resource and supply development and supportive data collection and analysis efforts.



The Southwest Florida Water Management District encompasses a 16-county area (10,000 square miles) including all of Citrus, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota and Sumter counties, and portions of Charlotte, Highlands, Lake, Levy, Marion and Polk counties.

Members of the District Governing Board and Basins Boards are appointed by the Governor with the approval of the Florida Senate.

For a full copy of the *Budget in Brief* document please visit the District's web site at WaterMatters.org.

This information will be made available in accessible formats upon request. Please contact the Communications Department at (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only), ext. 4757; TDD only at 1-800-231-6103 (FL only).

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Fiscal Year 2008

Budget in Brief

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